

Method for Selective Encryption Within Documents

Abstract of the Invention

The present invention allows the user (author or creator) of a document to specify
5 that certain portions of a document be selected for encryption while other portions of the
document remain displayed as created. In addition, each encrypted section could have
multiple encryption keys such that some viewers can review certain parts of the
document while other viewers will not have that same access. The user could employ a
standard word processing editor technique to highlight (or swipe) portions of a document
10 that the user desires to be encrypted. The highlighted portion would then be 'tagged'
with a surrounding attribute indicating to the word processor that this highlighted portion
of the document is to be encrypted. The highlighted sections would also have encryption
keys associated with the highlighted and encrypted section. Any one of the encryption
keys for that section would decrypt that section. With proper authorization, any
15 encrypted portion of a document would be displayed as part of the document. Without
proper authorization, the display of the document would only contain the unencrypted
portions of the document.